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EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

including report of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1971

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BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report on the Health of the District for the year 1971.

I N D E X.

		Page No.
INDEX.		1
PREFACE		2
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - Staff - Committee		3
SECTION "A"		
GENERAL STATISTICS ETC.		
Population	)	
Area in Acres	)	
No. of Inhabited Houses	) Table 1	4
Rateable Value	)	
Product of a Penny Rate	)	
VITAL STATISTICS ETC.		
Births and Birth Rate	)	
Deaths and Death Rate	)	
Rates for H.C.C. & England and Wales	)	5 - 7
INFECTIOUS DISEASES. - Prevalence & Control.		8 -10
DEATHS. Causes of, during 1971.		11
COMMENTS :-		
General Statistics		12
Vital Statistics & Causes of Deaths		12
Infectious Disease		12
Tuberculosis		12
Old Peple's Welfare		12
National Assistance Acts		12
Meals on Wheels		12
Building		12
SECTION "B". GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.		
Laboratory Service, County Council Health and Welfare Services, Social Services, Hospital Medical and Dental Services, and other Services.		13 -18
SECTION "C". SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.		
Report of the Public Health Inspector.		19 -27
SECTION "D". FACTORIES ACTS.		
Summary of Returns		28 -31

EAST HERTFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1971.

B R A U G H I N G R U R A L D I S T R I C T.

P R E F A C E.

To the Chairman and Members of the Finance
and General Purposes Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the Rural District of Braughing for the year ended 31st December 1971.

The population continues to rise. The main increase is in Buntingford, following the building of new houses in this area.

The General Health of the Area appears excellent. Very few cases of communicable disease were reported.

. . . . . .

Deaths.

Throughout the County the returns continue to show the modern epidemic of lung cancer. This is usually linked with heavy cigarette smoking over a period of years.

. . . . . .

Road Traffic Accidents.

Three young people died between the ages of 15 and 24. These were not all on local roads. I have assumed the normal expectation of life to be about 75 years. On looking through Hertfordshire figures for a recent year, I found that the average loss of life per person who died in a road traffic accident was 35 years. Young, inexperienced drivers are certainly a high-risk group.

. . . . . .

I wish to thank Mr. Reed for the help and advice he has given in the past year. Also, I thank Miss Kent for her secretarial aid.

I am grateful to other Chief Officers for their help. Also I thank the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their interest in the Health of the public.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN EARLE.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT - STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

John V. Earle, M.A., M.B., B. Ch., D.P.H., D.I.H., M.F.C.M.
Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices :
(East Herts. Combined Districts.) — Council Offices, High Street, Hoddesdon, Herts.

Telephone: — Office : Hoddesdon 68331.

Deputy (Part-time) Medical Officer of Health.

Peter de Bec Turtle, V.R.D., M.A., B.M., Ch., D.P.H.
Haileybury and Imperial Services College.

Telephone: — Sanatorium : Hoddesdon 62040
Home : Hoddesdon 62614

Public Health Inspector.

P.E.L. Reed, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerical Duties in the Public Health Department were carried out by Miss D. Kent.

Public Health Department : — Bridgefoot House, Buntingford, Herts.

Telephone : — Royston 71315

PUBLIC HEALTH MATTERS ARE DEALT WITH BY THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE.

The Finance and General Purposes Committee for the year 1971/2 was composed of the following Members :-

Chairman : Mr. E. W.Huson. Vice-Chairman : Mr. H. Harvey.

Mr. A. Anderson.	Mr. E. Howard Carter	Mr.W.S. Pimblett
Mrs. M.N. Avery	Mrs. M.A. Cocksedge	Mr.C.J. Poulton
Capt. C. G. Barclay	Mr. H. Crocker	Mr.S.E. Thody
Mr. H.C. Beddington	Mrs. G. M. Holmes	Mr. J.M. Tulloch
Mrs. J.A.P. Boyd Carpenter	Mrs. B. P. Lyon	Mr. A. Vandome.

S E C T I O N "A".

TABLE 1.

(Figures for 1970 shown in brackets).

POPULATION.

Estimated Mid-Year Population of Braughing Rural District.

(11,630) 12,560.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres	45,570

Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books.

(4,016) 4,173

Number of Houses per acre	0.091
Number of persons per acre	0.276
Number of persons per house	3.009

Rateable Value of District.	£544,731
Sum Represented by a New Penny Rate	£5,358

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Braughing Rural District.	Hertford County.	England & Wales.
LIVE BIRTH RATES ETC.			
Livebirths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	18.4	15.1	16.0
Area Comparability factor	1.14	0.94	1.00
Local adjusted rate	21.0	14.2	16,00
Ratio of local adjusted rste to National rate	1.31		1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births	3		8
STILLBIRTH RATE.			
Stillbirths per 1,000 total live and still births.	13	9.9	12
INFANT MORTALITY RATES.			
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000	22	15.1	18
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births.	22	14.6	17
Deaths of Illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	-	24.2	24
Neonatal Mortality rate			
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births.	22	10.8	12
Early neonatal mortality rate			
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births.	17	8.6	10
Perinatal Mortality rate.			
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	30	18.3	22

VITAL STATISTICS.		Local Authority Area. Males.	Females.	Total.	England and Wales. (Total).
Estimated midyear home population.				12,560	48,815,000
Live Births	Total	123	108	231	783,165
	Legitimate	119	105	224	717,491
	Illegitimate	4	3	7	65,674
Stillbirths	Total	1	2	3	9,898
	Legitimate	1	2	3	8,826
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,072
Total live and stillbirths	Total	124	110	234	793,063
	Legitimate	120	107	227	726,317
	Illegitimate	4	3	7	66,746
Deaths of infants Under 1 year of age.	Total	3	2	5	13,726
	Legitimate	3	2	5	12,140
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	1,586
Under 4 weeks of age.	Total	3	2	5	9,113
	Legitimate	3	2	5	8,121
	Illegitimate	-	-	-	992
Under 1 week of age.	Total	2	2	4	7,750
	Legitimate	2	2	4	6,903
	Illegitimate	-	--	-	847
Deaths - all ages.		54	51	105	567,345

VITAL STATISTICS.

... Continued...	Braughing Rural District.	Hertford County.	England & Wales.
DEATH RATES ETC. - ALL AGES.			
Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	8.4	9.0	11.6
Area Comparability Factor	.99	1.13	1.00
Local adjusted rate	8.3	10.2	11.6
Ratio of local adjusted rate to National rate	.72		1.00

MATERNAL DEATH RATE.		
Maternal Deaths including abortions	-	
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births.	-	0.2

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases (Other than Tuberculosis) notified during year.

Disease	Total all ages for the year	Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65	Not Known.
Scarlet Fever	3	-	1	1	1	-	-	-
Measles	5	-	3	2	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-

INCIDENCE OF DISEASE DURING THE DIFFERENT MONTHS.

	First Quarter			Second Quarter			Third Quarter			Fourth Quarter		
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Measles	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

T U B E R C U L O S I S during 1971.

Tuberculosis New Cases only	Total all ages	Under 5 Years	5 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over	Age not known.
Respiratory	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meninges & C.N.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-

Tuberculosis All Cases.		Total	Males		Females.	
			P.	N.P.	P.	N.P.
Cases on Register on 31st December, 1970.		18	7	1	5	5
Cases added to Register	New Cases	1	-	1	-	-
	Inward Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
	Restored to Register.	-	-	-	-	-
Cases removed from Register	Deaths	-	-	-	-	-
	Outward Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
	Patients Cured.	-	-	-	-	-
Cases remaining on Register 31st December, 1971.		19	7	2	5	5

CAUSE OF DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1971.

	M.	F.
ALL CAUSES.	54	51
Other infective and parasitic Diseases	-	1
Malignant Neoplasms - Oesophagus	1	2
- Intestine	3	2
- Lung, Bronchus	5	-
- Breast	-	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	3
Diabetes Mellitus	2	-
Anaemias	-	1
Other diseases of Nervous System	1	2
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	2
Hypertensive Disease	-	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	18	14
Other Forms of Heart Disease	2	-
Cerebrovascular Disease	5	7
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	2
Influenza	-	1
Pneumonia	2	5
Bronchitis and Emphysema	5	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	-	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	-
Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	1	-
Congenital Anomalies	1	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	2	1
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	-	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	-
All Other Accidents	-	1

(a)	Still Births	1	2
(b)	Deaths of infants under four weeks of age	3	3
(c)	" " " " one year of age	3	2
(d)	" " " " one week of age	2	2

GENERAL STATISTICS.

The estimated population for mid-year 1971 was 12,560. This is given by the General Register Officer. It represents an increase of 930 over the previous year. Births exceed deaths by 126. The remainder represents migration into the area.

The number of inhabited houses rose to 4,173.

VITAL STATISTICS AND CAUSES OF DEATHS.

All the infant mortality rates appear to be above the national average. In fact, all the deaths were due to unavoidable misadventure or congenital abnormalities incompatible with life. Had there been one less death, the figures would have been below that national average. 1970 and 1971 taken together are below the national average.

Road traffic accidents killed three young people between the ages of 15 and 24.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year, few were reported. The national policy of measles vaccination is showing great benefit. In Hertfordshire, before vaccination programme began, there would be about 16,000 cases in an epidemic year and about 12,000 in the alternate years. Since measles vaccination, the numbers have fallen to about 2-3,000 per year. Braughing has shared in this overall benefit.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There is an increase of one in the number on the Register.

OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE.

There is no doubt that warden-assisted bungalows are very beneficial. They allow people to live in their own homes in greater security and for longer than they might and without the supervision of a Warden.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS. SECTION 47.

One patient was taken to hospital as a person in need of urgent care and attention. She settled in remarkably well.

MEALS ON WHEELS.

These were served at Buntingford, High Wych, Much Hadham and Thorley.

BUILDING.

During the year 87 buildings were erected by Private Enterprise and 26 by the Council.

SECTION "B".

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR BRAUGHING RURAL DISTRICT.

LABORATORY SERVICE.

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Cambridge.

In an emergency medical specimens may be examined at the Laboratory of the Hertford County Hospital, Hertford or the Herts. and Essex General Hospital, Bishop's Stortford.

COUNTY HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES.

Immunisation and Vaccination.

All parents are advised to take advantage of this service, which can be obtained from their family doctors or at Infant Welfare Centres.

Approx. Age.	Vaccine.
6 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough, POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
8 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough. POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
13 months	COMBINED diphtheria tetanus and whooping cough POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
15 months	MEASLES.
School entry	POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
School entry	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus.
13 years	B.C.G. Vaccination against TUBERCULOSIS.

This is NOT a rigid time-table. Many Doctors hold slightly differing views, and prematurity or ill-health in a child may mean the schedule has to be altered to meet individual needs.

During 1971, the Department of Health and Social Security ceased to recommend that all children should be vaccinated.

Vaccination of infants can still be done, at the parents request, either in an Infant Welfare Clinic or by the child's general practitioner.

Immunisation & Vaccination (Continued).

As far as the routine immunisation of children is concerned, birth notification of children in the County is processed by computer. In consequence, it is possible to send out an appointment for every child to attend a Clinic or its own Doctor for immunisations as they have become due. This scheme was introduced in East Herts. in January 1968. This system has produced a high degree of immunity in the child population.

It must be borne in mind that a traveller entering certain countries must produce an International Certificate of Vaccination against Smallpox, Yellow Fever and Cholera. International Certificates should be procured from the travel agency when the intending traveller makes his booking.

Vaccination of adults is done by the patient's own Doctor, who must enter on the Certificate particulars of the vaccine employed. The Doctor's signature must then be authenticated at the local - not the County - Health Department, which holds facsimiles of all signatures of Doctors in the District.

Immunisation against Yellow Fever must be carried out at one of the following Centres, after an appointment is first made by telephone :-

Address.	Tel.No.	Time of Attendance.
Yellow Fever Vaccination Service, Hospital for Tropical Diseases, 4 St. Pancras Way, LONDON. N.W.1.	01-387 -4411 Ext.137	Monday to Friday mornings.
Yellow Fever Vaccination Service, Medical Department, Unilever House, Blackfriars, LONDON. E. C. 4.	01-353 -7474 Ext.2841	Tuesday and Friday 3.45 p.m.
Yellow Fever Vaccination Service, 53 Great Cumberland Place, LONDON. W.1.	01-262-6456	Monday to Friday 9.30 - 10.30 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 1.30 - 2.30 p.m.

Protection against Cholera may be obtained from the traveller's own Doctor and is advisable for persons undertaking journeys in the Middle or Far East. Advice may be obtained from the Embassy or Mission of the Country concerned.

Smallpox has an incubation period of 14 days. Protection becomes valid 8 days after vaccination and lasts for three years.

Yellow Fever has an incubation period of 6 days. Protection becomes valid 10 days after immunisation and lasts ten years.

Immunisation and Vaccination (Continued).

Cholera has an incubation period of 5 days. Protection becomes valid 6 days after immunisation and lasts for six months.

Typhoid Fever occurs in some countries and may be contracted by travellers in mediterranean areas. Anyone proposing to spend holidays in such regions ought, for their own sakes and for the sake of others, to seek protection from T.A. B. Immunisation. This should not be left to the last moment. The interval between the first and second doses should be at least four weeks and preferably six weeks, it takes this time for immunity to develop fully.

Home Help Service.

In April 1971 the Administration of the Home Help Service passed to the Director of Social Services. This, in fact, means that the Local Organiser remains the same.

Applications for this Service should be made to Mrs. Cooper, Home Help Organiser at The Health Centre, Market Square, Bishop's Stortford. Telephone: Bishop's Stortford 2743. Hours 8.30 - 1; 1.30-5 p.m.

Mrs. Trew is the Assistant Home Help Organiser and Mrs. Ellis - Clerk.

The Home Help Service is constantly needing more help. Any person anxious to be of assistance to either old and infirm people or young mothers with children, should apply to Mrs. Cooper.

Cervical Cytology Service.

The Sister of the Clinic at Sainsbury's Distribution Depot at Buntingford told me that they had 60 women, aged 35 years and over, at this Depot. After carefully informing these women, 38 of them attended Cytology Sessions held at the Depot. I am pleased to report that none of the smears taken showed any cancer cells.

SOCIAL SERVICES.

The Social Services developed their own administrative structure as from 1st April, 1971. The following are details of available services in the Area -

Divisional Social Services Officer. Miss M. Copleston.	Westfield, West Street, Hertford. Tel: Hertford 7041.
Assistant Divisional Social Services Officer. Mr. H. W. Scott.	"
Braughing Rural District Area.	
Senior Social Worker. Mrs. A. Stroud.	Social Services Department, The Lodge, Market Square, Bishop's Stortford. Tel: Bishop's Stortford 57253.
Social Workers.	
Miss P. Buckley	"
Mrs. A. C. Evans.	"
Mrs. M. Hewish - part time.	"
Mrs. P. Perrin.	"

HOSPITAL SERVICES.

The Area is served chiefly by the County Hospital, Hertford, the Herts. and Essex Hospital, Bishop's Stortford, the Lister Hospital, Hitchin, and the Harlow Hospital.

Chronic sick and elderly can receive treatment at Western House Hospital, Collett Road, Ware. The hospital section deals mainly with geriatric patients, the number of beds available is :-

69 for females, of Which 47 are for psycho-geriatric patients.
22 for males.

Patients suffering from infectious diseases can be treated either at St. Ann's Hospital, Tottenham (Tel: No. 01-800-0121) or Highlands Hospital, Winchmore Hill, London. N.21 (formerly South Lodge Hospital, World's End Lane, London N.21 (Tel:No.360 8151)).

GENERAL PRACTITIONER MEDICAL SERVICES.

Braughing Rural District is served by 6 General Practioners, all of whom work in partnerships. To these are attached 4 Health Visitors/ District Nurses/ Midwives, one Nurse/Midwife, and one Nurse, a scheme which has been in operation some years. The attachments are proving very successful.

DENTAL SERVICE.

There is one Dental Surgeon in practice in Buntingford. The District is also served by Dental Surgeons in adjoining localities.

OTHER SERVICES.

There is a Club for Old People at Buntingford, and also at Braughing, Little Hadham and Much Hadham.

Women's Institutes are active at 15 centres in the District.

A Voluntary Organisation called BASH (Buntingford Action for Social Help) was formed in October 1970 to combine a number of existing voluntary organisations :-

St. Peters Adults
St. Peter's Trogs
Ward Freeman School and
Buntingford Youth Club

Its Committee include the Medical Profession and a wide range of people of the community whose aims are to visit and aid the old and to help with shopping, house decorating etc. and to provide transport where needed. It provides regular Play-groups for Mothers and young children and a weekly coffee morning.

CARE AND AFTER CARE.

Applications for recuperative holidays, if recommended by the Medical Attendant, should be made to the County Medical Officer.

Equipment can be issued on loan to patients being nursed at home. Medical Loan Depots have been established at Braughing, Buntingford and Much Hadham. A charge may be made for both of the services.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

There are Ambulance Stations at Hertford, Buntingford, Bishop's Stortford and at Ware. Except in an emergency an ambulance should be ordered by a Medical Practitioner.

DAY NURSERIES.

There are no Day Nurseries in the Braughing Rural District. There are three part-time Nursery Schools in Buntingford, one at the Ward Freeman School, a service provided by the school Staff and pupils as extra curricula activities one morning a week, and one at the Congregational Church Schoolroom , also the Jack and Jill Play Group.

There is a Play-Group at Cottered.

So far as I am aware, there is no overall register of voluntary bodies or activities. Many might demur if they were asked to register.

As a consequence it is extremely difficult to detail them all. Any errors and omissions are regretted.

S E C T I O N "C".

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

FOR THE YEAR 1971.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors.

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1971.

In the following pages of the Report I have outlined the work done and given a resume of the Sanitary Circumstances of the Area. Section "D" contains the Statistical Returns concerning the Factories Acts.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
P. E. L. REED.

M.A.P.H.I. M.R.S.H.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING 1971.

Total inspections recorded	1228

Housing.

Housing inspections	61
Housing re-visits	101
Tenancy selection	287
Housing Welfare	112
Council garage lettings and survey	53

Food and Food Premises.

Premises inspected, including re-visits	87
Licensed premises inspected	12
Meat inspections	81
Slaughterhouse inspections	5
Unsound Food	2
Imported Food Regulations	12

Water Supply.

Inspections and sampling visits	94

Infectious Diseases.

Visits and investigations	19

General Sanitation.

Complaints	82
Drainage	84
Caravans	21
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	32
Factories	13
Pest Control	26
Petroleum Act	35
Animal Boarding Establishments	9

HOUSING.

New Building.

During 1971 houses built by Private Enterprise totalled 87.

Council Housing.

Construction of one-bedroomed flats numbering eight at Cottered twelve at Much Hadham,and two flats each at Albury, Brent Pelham, and Stocking Pelham, making the total Council built completions twenty-six for the year.

Negotiations continued regarding the proposed 36 flats at Buntingford and the erection of six bungalows at Anstey was commenced.

Following the submission of a further detailed analysis of current applications for housing and consideration of the then programme for building Council housing accommodation a programme was agreed, (the actual numbers of units of accommodation may vary depending upon availability of suitable sites etc.), as follows :-

Aspenden	4 units of small accommodation.
Braughing	20 Warden serviced units of small accommodation.
Buckland	6 units of small accommodation.
Buntingford	48 Houses (including 24 for public service requirements). 36 one or two-bedroomed flats, including Warden's flat
Great Hormead	12 flats.
High Wych	32 flats and 26 houses.
Westmill	4 units of small accommodation.
Albury)	8 houses
Little Hadham)	24 units of small accommodation.
Much Hadham)	

Unfit Houses.

A further two houses were Represented to the Council during the Year.

Some progress was made in clearing the backlog of people living in condemned houses and it was possible to re-house three such cases.

Improvement and Standard Grants.

This potentially important aspect of improving the standard of cottage properties in the Area continued to be dealt with by the Surveyor and his staff.

During the year a total of 36 applications were received and 26 Improvement (Discretionary) and 10 Standard Grants were approved, involving 36 dwellings.

Qualification Certificates.

Applications began to come in during the year, but several applications were refused because of properties having dangerous electrical wiring installations.

Allocation of Council Housing Accommodation.

The Waiting Lists of Applications for Council accommodation continued to be maintained by the Department. Inspections are made to ascertain the Housing needs of applicants so that full information is available to the Housing Committee, who select tenants as tenancies become available.

Investigations made during the year emphasised the under-occupation of many of the Council's houses and it is apparent that the building of one or two-bedroomed units and the transfer of existing tenants to them will, in most parishes, provide a most useful contribution towards meeting the needs of the more urgent applications on the lists. The programme of providing this accommodation is referred to on the previous page.

Warden-controlled Bungalows.

At Buntingford and Much Hadham the Council have small groups of bungalows and at each of these two sites there is a resident Warden, and close liason with the Wardens continued.

There is no doubt that the availability of the Warden to answer Emergency Bell calls and the day to day help given with shopping, phone calls, fetching medicines etc. is appreciated by the tenants and it is pleasing to note that at both sites the Wardens have arranged regular Social gatherings for those who wish to take part.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES.

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970 came into force on the 1st March 1971 and all food shops were circulated with an explanatory leaflet about the Regulations and a letter pointing out the main changes in the requirements of the new Regulations which consolidated and amended the Food Hygiene (General Regulations 1960 and 1962.

Food premises in the district comprised :-

Bakehouses	1
Bakers andCake Shops	1
Butchers	6
Cafes	2
Distribution Depots	2
Grocers	24
Greengrocers	3
Sweets & Confectionery	6
	45

Routine inspections are made of Messrs. J. Sainsbury's Depot at Buntingford. The Management are co-operative and anxious to ensure that their premises and food handled in them maintain a consistently high standard.

Licensed Premises.

No premises were closed during the year, the total for the District remaining at 40.

Meat Inspection.

There is one slaughterhouse in the District and all animals slaughtered there are inspected.

	Cattle (not Cows)	Sheep	Pigs	Calves
Animals Killed	199	805	-	-
Whole Carcases condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	22	33	-	-

No carcase or part thereof was condemned for tuberculosis.

No cases of cysticercosis were found.

A sum of £55.13 was recovered from slaughterhouse operators by way of charges for meat inspection.

Unsound Food.

The following was surrendered voluntarily as unfit for human consumption.

	Tons.	Cwt.	Lbs.
Meat at Distribution Depot		19	54
Offal at Slaughterhouses		3	52
Canned Meats	1	15	108
	2	18	102

WATER SUPPLY.

The Mains water supply in the District is provided by the Lee Valley Water Company. During the year the Company reported that 187 bacteriological and 8 chemical water samples were taken from within the District and all of these were satisfactory.

There are 44 wells in use in the District and they supply 104 houses.

Routine bacteriological samples of these well supplies are undertaken and 49 gave satisfactory results whilst 15 were unsatisfactory.

Most unsatisfactory results were attributable to storage tanks that were in need of thorough cleansing and sterilisation but there are a few supplies (mostly shallow wells) which are liable to yield poor results at any time and in these cases the users of the water are advised to always boil it before drinking and preparing uncooked foodstuffs etc.

Type of water supply 31.12.71.

Parish	Houses supplied from mains	Wells in use.	Houses supplied from wells.
Albury	180	-	-
Anstey	102	4	5
Ardeley	133	3	6
Aspenden	80	1	1
Braughing	363	5	22
Brent Pelham	62	-	-
Buckland	104	-	-
Buntingford	1334	2	2
Cottered	185	2	4
Furneux Pelham	148	1	5
High Wych	174	9	17
Hormead	227	-	-
Little Hadham	321	4	11
Meesden	42	-	-
Much Hadham	577	4	13
Stocking Pelham	45	-	-
Thorley	97	2	2
Westmill	79	7	16
Wyddial	35	-	-
	4288	44	104

GENERAL SANITATION.

Complaints.

A total of 32 complaints were received and each was investigated and in 4 cases the complaints were unfounded or warranted no action.

Summary of complaints dealt with :-

Animals kept unsatisfactorily	4
Dampness	2
Drainage defects	10
Food Complaints	1
Housing Defects	1
Noise	2
Rodents & other pests	7
Smoke and effluvia	1

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963.

There are 39 premises registered under this Act and 32 routine inspections were made. Upon registration an inspection is carried out and the owner notified of any contraventions found. During the course of routine visits some defects were noted by co-operation was generally good and no legal action was necessary to secure compliance with the Act.

Pest Control.

This work is carried out by a private Contractor on behalf of the Council and matters referred to him were dealt with satisfactorily. Once more rat infestations were particularly heavy in the last quarter of the year; 135 reports of rats in and around domestic premises were received and 25 requests for eradication of mice were dealt with.

Night Soil Collection.

Weekly collection continued to be made, by Council's men, from 42 properties, this Service included all unmodernised Council houses.

Few additional requests for the service have been received from private householders.

Sewage Disposal.

Eleven of the nineteen parishes in the District are served by main sewerage and due to the national economic situation etc., no further schemes were undertaken for the remaining small parishes during the year.

Cesspools are emptied free of charge twice per year where the main sewer is not available to residential properties.

Refuse Collection.

A weekly collection of house refuse is made and this service is organised by the Council's Surveyor.

Tipping of refuse from this Area and Bishop's Stortford Urban District is carried out at Hadham Towers, Much Hadham. This tip is controlled by Bishop's Stortford Urban District Council and refuse from the Braughing Rural District is disposed of there by agreement.

AnimalBoarding Establishments.

There are six premises in the District registered under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963, for the boarding of dogs and cats. Each of the premises registered was inspected and found to be satisfactory.

S E C T I O N "D".

FACTORIES ACTS - SUMMARY OF RETURNS.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

FOR THE YEAR 1971.

FACTORIES ACT - 1961.

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of Factories Act, 1961.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors.)

	Number on Register	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which S.1,1,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	4	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which S.7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	23	13	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which S.7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (Excluding out-workers premises).	-	-	-	-
	27	13	-	-

FACTORIES ACT - 1961.

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of Factories Act, 1961.

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness(S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors. (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences S.7. (a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers.	-	-	-	-	-
	2	2	-	1	-

PART V111 OF THE ACT.

Outwork.

Sections 133 and 134.

Nature of Work		Section 133		Section 134		
	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices served	Prosecutions
Furniture and Upholstery	1	-	-	-	-	-
Wearing Apparel	2	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	-	-	-	-	-

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